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LETTER DATED 27 OCTOBER 1993 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a statement of the Ministry of Defence of the Azerbaijani Republic, dated 27 October 1993, regarding the latest aggression by the Republic of Armenia against the Azerbaijani Republic, the invasion of the south-western portion of our country.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter urgently circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yashar T. ALIYEV
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

[Original: Russian]

Statement of the Ministry of Defence of the Azerbaijani Republic dated 27 October 1993

On 23 October 1993, units of the Armenian armed forces occupying the Djebrail and Fizuli districts of Azerbaijan, treacherously violated the cease-fire agreement and, after massive artillery preparation, launched a large-scale attack with a large number of armoured vehicles in the direction of the frontier between Azerbaijan and Iran.

After fierce and bloody fighting, the enemy succeeded, on 24 to 25 October, in forcing our units to the frontier and seizing the Goradiz railway station and more than 30 other settlements. As a result, the road connecting the Zangelan district with the rest of the Republic was cut. The Zangelan district is therefore completely surrounded. At present the enemy controls about 70 kilometres of the frontier between Azerbaijan and Iran.

Continuing the attack on the Zangelan district, on 25 October 1993 the armed forces of Armenia invaded that district directly from the territory of Armenia itself, violating Azerbaijan's international frontier at several points simultaneously.

From the Megri district of Armenia, the attacking enemy units seized the strategic heights of Sygyrt and Bartav and occupied the settlements of Vezhnali and Agbend.

From the direction of the Kafan district of Armenia, armoured units of the enemy (up to 40 tanks) succeeded in seizing the settlements of Burunlu, Shaefly and Geyaly and moved on to the road leading to the town of Zangelan, the district centre.

From the direction of the Goris district of Armenia, the aggressors, using the occupied territory of the Kubatly district as a bridgehead, seized the settlements of Saldash, Cherely, Mollaly, Giyasly, Ulashly, Bilja, Agakishilyar, Kelejan, Tinly, Khojakhan, Agbis and the strategic heights of the Agbis mountain.

As a result of this further act of Armenian aggression against Azerbaijan, an emergency situation has been created along the frontier between Azerbaijan and Iran, where large numbers of the civilian population (about 60,000 people) have gathered.

Armoured units of the Armenian armed forces are blocking the evacuation of the civilian inhabitants across the Arax river frontier. Those fleeing are attempting to swim across to Iranian territory and many of them, unable to reach the other side of the river, have drowned.

As happened in the Lachin, Kelbajar, Agdam, Kubatly, Fizuli, Djebrail and other occupied districts, Azerbaijan has once again been subjected to open aggression by the Armenian militarists.

The failure of the international community to take decisive action to put a stop to the aggression by the Republic of Armenia against the Azerbaijani Republic has enabled the former to pursue its expansionist policy with impunity.